

Appl. No. 10/611,998
Amendment dated: March 8, 2006
Reply to OA of: December 13, 2005

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 2 and 10-16. Accordingly, Applicants have made every effort to expedite the allowance of the application by restricting the application to the allowed subject matter.

Applicants have canceled claims 1 and 3-9 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants most respectfully submit that all of the claims now present in the application are in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. 112 and clearly patentable over the references of record.

The Examiner objects to the drawing but does not indicate the basis of the objection. Applicants note some shading in Figure 2 and have corrected this and submit herewith a replacement Figure 2 and request clarification of any further objections to the drawings. It is believed that the replacement drawing obviates the outstanding objection.

The rejection of claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weiss has been carefully considered but is most respectfully traversed in view of the cancellation of these claims without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, it is most respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

The rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weiss in view of Lee et al. has been carefully considered but is most respectfully traversed in view of the cancellation of this claim without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, it is most respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

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Since the prior art rejections are the only rejections in the application and the claims rejected thereto have been canceled, it is believed that the application is now in condition for immediate allowance.

Applicants note the claim for priority and that the required certified copy of the priority document was filed with the application. This document appears in the USPTO file and therefore it is most respectfully requested that the claim for priority and receipt of the priority document be acknowledged in the next Official Action which should be the notice of allowability accompanying the notice of allowance and fees due.

In view of the above comments and further amendments to the claims favorable reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims now present in the application are most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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